A.C. 4412 (3)

DOVER RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1966

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C.F. LYNCH, M.B, B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.
Medical Officer of Health

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

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Councillors

J.A. Greenwood	(January-May)
Mrs. F.V. Bennett	(January-July)
Mrs. E.K. Bridgstock	
Mrs. J.E. Church	
Mrs. F.J. Harvey	
Mrs. J.E. Heath	
Mrs. E.A. Manley	
R.G. Gilling	(January-May)
G.E. Hearn	
K.J. Madge	
L.T. Meredith	
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C.G. Lines	
Miss S.D.M. Crocker	
J.A.A. Dodd	(May-December)
Mrs. A.M. Williamson	(September-December)
W.T.L. Scott	(May-December)

OFFICERS AND STAFF

Clerk to the Authority:
A. Syrett, M.B.E., D.M.A., F.C.C.S.

Medical Officer of Health:
C.F. Lynch, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.

Deputy Medical Officer of Health:
J.A. Byrne, M.B., B. Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H., D.T.M.&H.

Senior Public Health Inspector:
W.O. Armstrong, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.

Additional Public Health Inspector:
J.K. Freatly, M.A.P.H.I.

Additional Public Health Inspector:
F.G. Ward, M.A.P.H.I.

Clerical Assistants:

J.A. Taylor, B.E.M.	(January-February)
Miss M. Miles	
Miss J. Surtees	
Miss J. Bowman	(March-July)
Miss J. Dash	(July-December)

Health Department,
Brook House,
Dover.

TO: The Chairman and Members of the Dover Rural District Council:
Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary conditions of the Rural District for the year 1966.

The registrar General's estimated mid-year population was 14,130 which again shows an increase but also includes members of H.M. Forces stationed in the area.

The health of the community as reflected in the vital statistics continued to be satisfactory.

The Birth Rate after adjustment for comparative purposes was 21.3 per 1,000 of the population compared with 24.8 in 1965 and 17.7 for England and Wales.

The Death Rate after adjustment was 8.2 per 1,000 as it was in 1965 while the rate for England and Wales was 11.7.

Infant Mortaility or the number of deaths under one year showed a further decrease during the year; only two such deaths occurred giving a rate per 1,000 live births of ten compared with twelve for the previous year and nineteen for England and Wales as a whole.

There were no maternal deaths during the year. No epidemics occurred; there were however eight cases of dysentary, three of which were in military personnel, and all were bacterial infections due to shigella sonnei.

Major improvements in the sanitary conditions of the Rural District included the Council's sewerage scheme for Kingsdown, Ringwould and St. Margaret's, which came into operation during the year. The scheme for Langdon was also completed and altogether a further 807 houses previously without main drainage were connected to the public sewers.

I have to thank the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee for their support throughout the year. I am indebted also to the Surveyor and Senior Public Health Inspector for data supplied for inclusion in this Report.

I have the honour to be,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

C.F. LYNCH

Medical Officer of Health.

8th August, 1967.

S E C T I O N A

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

The district is bounded roughly as follows:- On the North by the Rural Districts of Bridge-Blean and Eastry and the Borough of Deal; on the East by the sea; on the South by the Borough of Dover, the sea and the Borough of Folkestone; and on the West by the Rural Districts of Elham and Bridge-Blean.

The following Civil Parishes are situated within the boundary:-

Alkham, Capel-le-Ferne, Denton with Wootton, Guston, Hougham-Without, Langdon, Lydden, Ringwould, Shepherdswell with Coldred, St. Margaret's-at-Cliffe, Temple Ewell with River, Whitfield.

Area (including inland water), 25,746

Population:	(a)	Estimated mid-year Home population	14,130
	(b)	1961 Census figures	11,467
	(c)	1951 Census figures	10,504

(NOTE: All rates are calculated on the Registrar General's estimated mid-year Home Population of 14,130)

Number of dwellings 4,692

Rateable Value £492,468

Sum represented by 1d. rate, £1,964

Density of population - Persons per acre 0.55

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR

1. Births: (figures as supplied by Registrar General):
   (a) Registered live births:-

	Male:	Female:	Total:
Legitimate	105	91	196
Illegitimate	5	7	12
	110	98	208

Comparability Factor = 1.45

Crude Live Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated population	- 14.72
Crude Legitimate Live Births per 1,000 estimated population	- 13.87
Crude Illegitimate Live Births per 1,000 estimated population	- 0.85
Adjusted Live Birth Rate for comparative purposes	- 21.34

(b) Stillbirths:-

	Male:	Female:	Total:
Legitimate	1	2	3
Illegitimate	-	-	-

Stillbirth Rate (per 1,000 Live and Stillbirths) = 14.22

2. Deaths:

The figures used in this Report are those compiled from local returns adjusted for inward and outward transfers. The number of deaths registered during 1966 numbered 122, outward transfers 25 and inward transfers 72, giving a net allocation of 169. This figure agrees with that of the Registrar General.

The death classification is obtained from the information submitted by the local Registrar in his weekly returns.

	Males:	Females:	Total:
Registered	77	92	169

Comparability Factor:- 0.69

Crude death rate per 1,000 population - 11.96
Adjusted for comparative purposes - 8.25

3. Infant Mortality: Deaths under 1 year:

	Male:	Female:	Total:
Legitimate	2	-	2
Illegitimate	-	-	-

Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live Births = 9.6

4. Specially Recorded Deaths:

Measees (all ages) ... ... -
Whooping Cough (all ages)... ... ... -
Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age) ... ... -
Cancer (all ages) 31

Death rates from cancer per 1,000 Home Population:-

	Dover Rural District:	England & Wales:
(i) Lungs and Bronchus	0.28	0.562
(ii) Other	1.91	1.687
All forms	2.19	2.249

(iii) Age Groups in which Deaths from Cancer occurred:

Site:-	25-44		45-64		65-74		75 & over		Total:	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Stomach	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Lung, Bronchus	-	-	2	1	-	-	1	-	3	1
Breast	-	-	-	2	-	1	-	-	-	3
Uterus	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	2
Other Sites	1	-	4	1	6	2	5	2	16	5
Total	1	-	7	5	6	3	6	3	20	11

5. Causes of Death in 1966: and Age Groups:

Cause of Death	Male:	Female:	Total:
Other Infectious and Parasitic Diseases	1	1	2
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	1	-	1
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	3	1	4
Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	3	3
Malignant neoplasm uterus	-	2	2
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	16	5	21
Vascular lesions of nervous system	7	15	22
Coronary Disease, angina	15	13	28
Hypertension with heart disease	2	4	6
Other heart disease	4	17	21
Other circulatory disease	4	7	11
Influenza	-	1	1
Pneumonia	6	7	13
Bronchitis	3	3	6
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1	-	1
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	1	1	2
Nephritis and nephrosis	1	3	4
Hyperplasia of Prostrate	1	-	1
Congenital Malformations	1	-	1

5. Causes of Death in 1966: and Age Groups (continued)

Cause of Death	Male:	Female:	Total:
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	5	6	11
Motor vehicle accidents	1	1	2
All other accidents	4	1	5
Suicide	-	1	1
Total	77	92	169

Age Groups in which Deaths occurred:

Age Group	Male:	Female:	Total:
Under 1 year	2	-	2
1 year	-	-	-
2 - 4 years	-	-	-
5 - 14 years	-	1	1
15-24 years	2	-	2
25 - 44 years	1	2	3
45 - 64 years	14	13	27
65 - 74 years	18	21	39
75 and over	40	55	95
TOTALS	77	92	169

6. Comparative Rates:

	Dover Rural District:		England & Wales
	1965:	1966:	1966
Births:			
Live Births Crude	17·90	14·72	
Live Births Adjusted	24.88	21.34	17.7
Stillbirths	0.433	0.212	0.28
Deaths:			
Crude	12.64	11.96	11.7
Adjusted	8.22	8.25	
Infant Deaths: (per 1,000 Live Births)			
All causes under 1 year	12 (Deaths 3)	5 (Deaths 2)	19
Maternal Mortality: (per 1,000 Total (Live and Still) Births):			
All causes	-	-	0.26

SECTION B

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES

Laboratory Facilities

Clinical material for examination may be submitted to the Local Hospital Laboratory Service as well as to the Public Health Laboratory at Maidstone where all routine examinations of samples of milk, water etc., are carried out.

Hospitals:

There are no hospitals situated within the Rural District but three hospitals in the Borough of Dover, which are administered by the South East Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board, provide appropriate facilities for general, medical, surgical, geriatric assessment, maternity and infectious cases.

St. Augustine's Nursing Home, Kearsney, a privately run Home, admits medical and surgical cases.

Nursing and Midwifery Services:

The Kent County Council as the administrative Authority responsible, provides these services in the Rural area, and I am indebted to the County Medical Officer for the following information on the work of the services during 1966:-

(a)	Number of Home Nurses working in district	=	5
	Number of Patients attended	=	318
	Number of attendances (including casual visits)	=	7,157
(b)	Number of Midwives working in district	=	5
	Number of births attended	=	89

Clinics and Welfare Centres

The County Council as the Local Health and Education Authority provides various specialist and consultant services for expectant and nursing mothers, infants, toddlers and children of school age.

The Regional Hospital Board also provides local clinic services including facilities for the diagnosis and treatment of tuberculosis and venereal disease.

SECTION C

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Water Supply

PARISHES	ESTIMATED NO. OF DWELLINGS N.B. 1961 CENSUS AND NEW HOUSES 62-66 INCL.	NO. OF DWELLINGS ON MAINS WATER	REMARKS
Alkham	197	186	11 wells and/or rainwater tanks
Capel-le-Ferne	595	584	11 wells and/or rainwater tanks
Denton with Wootton	106	105	1 well and/or rainwater tank
Guston	208	208	
Hougham-Without	135	133	2 wells and/or rainwater tanks
Langdon	152	152	
Lydden	204	200	4 wells and/or rainwater tanks
Ringwould	550	550	
St. Margaret's-at-Cliffe	687	686	1 well and/or rainwater tank
Shepherdswell with Coldred	469	469	
Temple Ewell with River	426	426	
Whitfield	963	962	1 well and/or rainwater tank
TOTAL	4,692	4,661	31 wells and/or rainwater tanks

Kingsdown - included in Ringwould Parish

Martin, Martin Mill - included in Langdon Parish

NOTE: There are no houses provided with external standpipes only.

Over 99% of the houses in the Rural District are supplied from the public mains. Of the twelve parishes in the district ten are supplied by the Mid Kent Water Company and two by the Folkestone and District Water Company.

Eighteen samples of water were taken from the mains supply, and all of these proved to be highly satisfactory on examination.

Drainage and Sewerage

Work was completed on the main drainage schemes for Kingsdown, Ringwould, St. Margaret's-at-Cliffe and Langdon (which includes Martin, Martin Mill and East Langdon). Both of these schemes discharge into the Deal Borough Sewers. There are now 6 main sewerage schemes in operation serving Capel-le-Ferne, Whitfield, Shepherdswell, Coldred, Lydden, part of Temple Ewell with River, Kingsdown, Ringwould, St. Margaret's-at-Cliffe, Langdon and a small part of Guston. These systems discharge into the sewers of adjoining Local Authorities of Dover, Folkestone and Deal.

Otherwise sewage is disposed of by cesspools, septic tanks, pail closets and chemical closets.

The supervision of the conversion of existing drainage systems to main drainage is under the control of the Surveyor and Senior Public Health Inspector. A restricted free emptying service of cesspool and pail closets is operated by the Council by direct labour and the frequency of this service in respect of cesspools was improved during the year. Now a charge is only levied if emptyings are more frequent than once in two months for single properties or more frequent than once a month where more than one property is using a particular cesspool.

Number of houses on main drainage 2815
Est. Number of houses on cesspools and septic tanks 1738
Est. Number of pail closets and chemical closets 139

The number of cesspools emptied during the year was 2210
The number of loads removed was 5186¾

Pail closets are emptied if required once a week during nine months of the year and twice a week during the three summer months. The total emptyings over the year being 6,175.

Refuse Collection

The collection and removal of domestic refuse and the collection of salvage is carried out under the supervision of the Surveyor and Senior Public Health Inspector and has worked very satisfactorily.
The work is done by direct labour.

The number of dustbins emptied during the year was 345,462

Weights of waste paper sold 60 tons 0 cwt. 3 qrs.
Amount received for the material £569 9s. 1¼d.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area

Regular routine and other inspections were carried out throughout the Rural District.

Factories Act, 1937

(i) Registered Factories:

With mechanical power	21
Without mechanical power	15
Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority	17
	53

(ii) Inspections:

Premises	Inspections	No. of Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
Factories with mechanical power	25	NIL	NIL
Factories without mechanical power	13	NIL	NIL
Other premises	19	NIL	NIL
	57	NIL	NIL

(iii) Defects:

	Found	Remedied	Number of Defects Referred to H.M.	Number of Defects Referred by Inspector	Number of cases in which Prosecutions were instituted
Want of Cleanliness	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
Sanitary Conveniences:- Unsuitable or defective	3	3	NIL	NIL	NIL
	3	3	NIL	NIL	NIL

Verminous Premises

There were no reports of verminous premises.

Destruction of Rats and Mice

Gassing, trapping and poisoning are carried out by a full-time Rodent Operator. Regular surveys of the area have been made during the year.

The following is a summary of the work carried out during the year:-

Number of infestations found and treatments carried out:

Rats, major 2
Rats, minor 150
Mice, major NIL
Mice, minor 16

Estimated kill:

Rats	720
Mice	58

Number of bodies found:

Rats	377
Mice	26

Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960

There are ten sites licensed in the district for the summer months: Viz. Capel-le-Ferne - six; Hougham-Without - two; Martin Mill (Langdon) - one; Whitfield - one. Two sites at Capel-le-Ferne are licensed for a total of twenty-two residential caravans. These sites are kept under regular supervision and are generally well operated and controlled. The influx of tents during August continues to be a problem on some sites.

As a result of a detailed survey of all sites further schedules of work have been agreed to secure compliance with the Council's conditions of licence under the above-mentioned Act.

Legal proceedings were taken in respect of the unauthorised stationing of a caravan on land at Church Hougham and a fine was imposed on the owner by the Magistrates Court.

Diseases of Animals (Waste Foods) Order, 1957

Visits were made to the thirteen premises licensed under the above-mentioned Order and it was found that only four are at presentoperating and feeding waste foods to pigs.

Shops, Offices and Railway Premises Act, 1963

Twenty shops and five offices received a general inspection during the year, the total inspections and reinspections was 42.

In three cases premises were found to be overcrowded by stock and improvement and extension of the premises has been effected. Plans were submitted for one case where office accommodation was considered insufficient.

One store and one staircase have been discontinued in use as being considered dangerous and reconstruction of the entire premises is under consideration.

Redecoration of three premises has been carried out and hot water and improved toilet and washing facilities provided in two cases, staff rooms have been provided at two premises.

SECTION D

HOUSING

As in previous years several sub-standard properties which had been let at controlled rents became vacant and were purchased, repaired and improved for owner occupation, some with the help of Improvement Grant's. This action assists in the preservation of units of accommodation which would otherwise require formal action under the sections of the Housing Act 1957 which deal with unfit houses and also helps preserve the rural character of the villages.

Two formal undertakings were accepted under Section 16 (4) of the Housing Act, 1957 and one of these was cancelled following satisfactory completion of the work. A similar undertaking accepted in 1965 was also cancelled following satisfactory completion of the work.

One property was demolished following service of a Demolition Order served under Section 17 of the Housing Act, 1957.

Access was refused to one property after service of Notice of Entry under Section 159 of the Housing Act 1957 and further action will follow to obtain access.

Informal action was taken to remedy defects to several other properties.

Few of the properties included in the Council's second five year programme of slum clearance are now left to be dealt with.

In connection with discretionary improvement grants, 14 schemes for improvement were submitted to the Council. All the schemes were approved. Total costs on the 14 schemes amounted to £14,924 2s. 2d. and the grants to £4,744 14s. 2d. Fourteen schemes were completed during the year. Ten schemes were submitted to the Council for standard improvement grants, all were approved. The maximum grant permitted on the schemes amounted to £1055 0s. 0d.

One hundred and forty six dwellings were completed by private enterprise during the year and one hundred and forty eight were under construction at the end of the year.

Four houses, four flats and eight maisonettes were built by the Council during the year and a scheme for 26 dwellings was commenced during the year.

S E C T I O N E

INSPECTIONS AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Milk

During the year regular visits were made to registered premises:

(a) Number of registered Distributors 25
(b) Number of registered Dairies 2

Sixteen Pasteurised milk samples were taken and all but one of these samples were found to be satisfactory. Two samples of cream from one distributor taken during the year failed to satisfy the Methylene Blue Test. The necessary action was taken by the Medical Officer of Health to secure improvements in the preparation and packaging of the cream as the dairy was situated in the area of an adjoining Local Authority.

Shops Act, 1950

Regular inspections of shops were made, and any necessary instructions given in regard to the requirements of the Act. No formal action was taken.

Food and Drugs Act, 1955

Under Section 16(1)(a) of the above Act, fourty nine premises are registered for the sale of ice-cream, and under Section 16(1)(b) five premises are registered. Only pre-packed ice-cream supplied by large manufacturing companies is sold from these premises.

Fifty-nine visits were made during the year to registered food premises and food shops in the district. The general standard of hygiene at food premises was satisfactory but it was necessary to take legal proceedings against one retailer in respect of the sale of food unfit for human consumption, contrary to Section 8 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955. Following their plea of guilty, the retailers were fined a total of £40 with £15 costs.

Investigations were also made into three complaints concerning foreign matter in food but having given careful consideration to all the facts the Council decided not to take legal action but issued strong warnings to the people concerned.

Foodstuffs condemned during 1966

During the year 633 packets of frozen food were surrendered following a break down of refrigeration plant on four occasions.

In addition the following foodstuffs were surrendered as being unfit for human consumption -

2 x 9 lbs tins of ham
15 x 6 lbs tins of luncheon meat
1 x 12 ozs tin of luncheon meat
1 x 12 ozs tin of corned beef
1 x 16 ozs tin of peas
7 lbs 15½ ozs bacon
15¼ ozs of ham

All food condemned is surrendered to the Public Health Inspector and removed to one of the Council's refuse tips where it is buried.

The shops continued to return most unsound foodstuffs to the wholesaler without calling in the Local Authority.

Food Poisoning

No cases of food poisoning or suspected food poisoning were notified during the year.

(b) Diphtheria Immunisations:

Number of children resident in the Rural District of Dover who received:-

(a) Primary Inoculations 207
(b) Re-inforcing Inoculations 158

(c) Smallpox Vaccination:

In view of the amendment to the County Council's proposals under Section 26 of the National Health Service Act, 1946, regarding records of vaccination against Smallpox the following is the sole information now available:-

Primary Vaccination 1 Year:	Re-vaccination School age but under 8 years:
144	Nil

(d) Poliomyelitis Vaccination:

Figures for 1966 based on the returns submitted to the Ministry of Health:-

Year of Birth	Primary	Re-inforcing
1966	34	-
1965	161	-
1964	13	-
1963	7	-
1962	3	7
1961 - 1959	8	95
1958 - 1950	2	14
TOTAL	228	116

3. Tuberculosis - Annual Statement of Cases:

	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	Males	Females	Males	Females
(a) Number of cases of tuberculosis on Register as at 1st January, 1966	48	49	15	16
(b) Number of cases notified under Regulations of 1952 for first time during year	1	1	2	-
(c) Other additions to Register	3	1	-	-
(d) Cases removed from Register during the year including recoveries or deaths (excluding deaths of unnotified cases)	4	5	1	-
(e) Cases on Register at end of 1966	48	46	16	16

Deaths of unnotified cases of tuberculosis:- Nil

The male patient notified as suffering from pulmonary infection was aged 39 and the female 38; the two male non-pulmonary cases were aged 23 and 47 years respectively.

No resident deaths were attributable to tuberculosis during 1966.

Of the four male pulmonary cases whose names were deleted from the register, three were reported recovered and one left the district; of the five female pulmonary cases, three were reported recovered, one left the district and one died (the patient was only temporarily resident in the district and for statistical purposes the death was transferable to another district).

The one male non-pulmonary case deleted from the register left the district.

Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925:

No action was necessary in regard to any tuberculosis person employed in the milk trade.

Public Health Act, 1936: Section 172:

No action was necessary with regard to the compulsory removal of tuberculou patients to hospital during the year.

Disinfection:

The Rural District Council does not possess a disinfecting plant, and where necessary, infected bedding or clothing could be disinfected by arrangement with the Hospital Authority.

Number of premises disinfected - 2.

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